



# NEWS RELEASE

March 5, 2011

## **PRESIDENT AQUINO PRESIDES OVER FINAL SAFE DISPOSAL OF UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE FROM CABALLO ISLAND**

At the request of President Benigno Aquino III, the U.S. and Philippine Governments collaborated in removing leftover WWII naval ordnance from Caballo Island. On February 4-6, the ordnance from Caballo Island was transferred to the Armed Forces of the Philippines training area in Crow Valley near Tarlac City. There, it was disposed of according to international safety standards.

At a ceremony today in Crow Valley, President Aquino detonated the final blast that destroyed the last portion of ordnance removed from Caballo Island, with Ambassador Harry K. Thomas, Jr. witnessing.

"We congratulate the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the many Philippine agencies and offices with whom we worked to make the transfer and disposal swift, safe, and successful," said Ambassador Thomas. "Our joint military training and years of working together as one team made this possible," he added.